

# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



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AGRICULTURE

JOURNAL OF

VOL. LXIV. - NO. 24

BOSTON, MASS., SATURDAY, MARCH 4 1905

WHOLE NO. 322

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN  
NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE  
Official Organ of the N. E. Agricultural Society.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN PUB. CO.  
Publishers and Proprietors.

ISSUED WEEKLY AT

NO. 3 STATE STREET,  
Boston, Mass.

TERMS:

\$2.00 per annum, in advance. \$2.00 if not paid in advance. Postage free. Single copies 2 cents. Persons sending manuscripts or illustrations for publication must sign their name, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith, otherwise the editor reserves the right to withhold payment. All matter intended for publication should be written on one side of paper, with ink, and upon but one side.

Correspondence from practical farmers, giving their experience, is solicited. Letters should be signed with the writer's real name, in full, which will be printed or not, as the writer may wish.

The PLOUGHMAN offers great advantages to advertisers. Its circulation is large and among the most active and intelligent portion of the community.

Entered as second-class mail matter.

Live Stock Numbers and Values.

Most kinds of farm animals are increasing in number, as shown by the census completed the first of the year, as the result of careful investigation of Government correspondents and field agents. The only exception is sheep, which show a considerable reduction from the figures of the previous year.

The following show in round numbers the figures for some of the Eastern States: Maine, horses, 135,000; milk cows, 189,000; sheep, 270,000; swine, 64,000. New Hampshire, horses, 63,000; milk cows, 130,000; sheep, 76,000; swine, 50,000. Vermont, horses, 20,000; milk cows, 285,000; sheep, 21,000; swine, 90,000. Massachusetts, horses, 13,000; milk cows, 190,000; sheep, 41,000; swine, 72,000. Rhode Island, horses, 16,000; milk cows, 25,000; sheep, 8,000; swine, 12,000. Connecticut, horses, 58,000; milk cows, 131,000; sheep, 33,000; swine, 46,000. New York, horses, 637,000; milk cows, 1,721,000; sheep, 185,000; swine, 675,000. Pennsylvania, horses, 667,000; milk cows, 1,000,000; sheep, 885,000; swine, 980,000. For the whole country the milk cows numbered 17,572,000; sheep, 127,331,000; swine, 47,320,000.

The valuations offered some peculiar features. Milk cows are valued the highest in Rhode Island at \$41.70 per head average. The low average valuation of \$24 per head in Vermont would suggest that traders might do a profitable business between the States. In Massachusetts the valuation per head is \$36.34. The lowest valuation is \$17.27 in Arkansas, where, no doubt, the quality to a considerable extent matches the price, as dairy cattle have as yet received but little attention in the Southwest. The highest valuation of sheep is \$4.19 in Connecticut, while in Arkansas the valuation is only \$1.60, and about the same in several other Southwestern States. Swine vary from \$11.28 per head in Massachusetts to \$3.63 per head in Arkansas. In fact, prices of all live stock are now lower in the South and Southwest than in the distinctly Western States, formerly the abode of cheap live stock.

#### The Sheep Question Again.

It may be true that in certain localities, near large cities, or along the more frequented highways of New England, the ravages of dogs and some forms of disease make it practically unprofitable to attempt sheep farming, but it may well be doubted if this applies to much of the larger area of our Eastern States. For example, the writer has kept sheep uninterruptedly for over twenty years, and during all that time no disease has ever appeared among them, no dogs have ever worried or killed them, nor has one ever been caught by wild beasts. And yet the farm sets under the shadow of one of Vermont's highest mountains, where the sheep roams at will in dense, primeval forests in which occasional bears are caught. And it also seems that as many dogs of various degree roam hereabout as in other localities.

If conditions are so favorable here, why may they not be in hundreds of similar places throughout our New England towns? In fact, is it not a somewhat threadbare tradition and of doubtful veracity—that of so much damage done to sheep in former years? In any event may it not be that while some time in the past there have been epidemics of sheep-killing dogs, the virus has exhausted itself, and now farmers may return safely to the old occupation?

As to the expediency and profit of sheep raising there can be no doubt. The writer has learned that no corresponding time and care given to cattle bring so large returns, to say nothing of the fact that a fair percentage of their keep is gleaned from the forage that other stock leave untouched.

As to extra expense in fence building, the one remedy for unruly sheep is—don't keep too many. A large flock tends to wildness and adventure. A small band will retain the domestic habit and prefer to stay near you. Keep them comparatively tame and they are a constant source of pleasure as well as profit.

GEORGE A. SMITH.  
Franklin County, Vt.

#### Connecticut Farm Items.

The present winter, while not so cold as the one of 1904, has been well supplied with snow most of the time. Ice houses have been filled with ice of excellent quality, ranging from ten to fourteen inches in thickness. Stock seems to be wintering well, although some farmers complain that their cows are producing but a small amount of milk. Bear in mind right here that care and feed are important factors in the production of milk. Farmers are getting their year's supply of wood. The buck saw

does not play as important a part in this work today as it did twenty years ago. Now the farmer hauls his year's supply of wood at the door, and the man with the gasoline engine does the rest. This is much easier, quicker and cheaper than the old method.

Those farmers who held their apples here for higher prices are finding themselves no better off than those who shipped their fruit early in the season. Local prices rule but little if any higher than they were last fall; while the shrinkage in holding them is considerable.

Eggs have been very scarce and high for many weeks and are still bringing thirty cents per dozen.

Veal calves are worth 60 cents live weight, but comparatively few are being fattened, as most of our farmers are selling their milk, and the calves are sold when only a few days old. Several deer have been seen in this vicinity recently, and farmers are beginning to fear that they will

Governor addressed the gathering, speaking of the difficulty of securing efficient, honest public service unless the officials are supported by intelligent public opinion.

At the close of his remarks a vote of thanks was unanimously extended the Lieutenant-Governor for his eloquent address and his assistance in rendering the gathering one of the most successful of the year.

#### A Barn Site.

It was built in rectangular form, with rough boards nailed horizontally to the studs. A band was taken from the mow, and the large girls of the barn six feet from the floor were utilized on three sides, one being put in on the other side to correspond with them; thus making the studing under the girls six feet long while that above was nine feet. It was cut in this way to economize space. If room is plenty, they can be put up the whole length, bearing against the inside of the girls. After one thickness

the second year there was \$3000 profit, after which the place was in shape to net \$4000 to \$5000 profit a year.

Dairy cows and clover seem to have been the mainstays of Mr. Ronnie's system. A herd of eighty-three cows was kept. Part of the farm was worked on the three-year rotation, and the rest of it on the four-year course. Corn was followed by oats, and then the land was seeded to clover, clover seed being sown with the oats, mixed with a little timothy and rye. All the cows were tested and the milk weighed, so that the poor ones could be weeded out. The average production of milk under this plan increased greatly. The main dependence for winter feed was on ensilage. Some of the milk was sold at retail at five cents a quart, and the rest made into butter at twenty-five cents a pound or sent to the cheese factory. About 150 pigs were raised on the farm and dairy refuse.

In the third year of the rotation, the clover hay was got off in June, and in a

on the top of a hill, away from any houses, and the grounds cover about three acres. The surrounding fields are devoted to the raising of onions, spinach and other like crops, and last year a large area was devoted to the raising of mangold beets for the hogs.

The bulk of the food given to the pigs is city swill, which is brought in Mr. Dean's own team from the city which is five miles away. Mr. Dean was enthusiastic over the amount of profit to be gained from the raising of hogs for the average farmer, for he said that the animals would utilize many things which would be waste if they did not eat them. Mr. Dean says he sees no need of keeping fancy stock, and all the hogs here are common grades.

There are at the piggy large iron kettles which are used for the cooking of swill. Only fattening hogs are given the cooked swill, except in the cold weather, as it is thought that the others do better without cooked food. The grain is mixed into the

three times a day from a mixture of six hundred pounds bran, four hundred pounds corn meal, one hundred pounds oil meal, one hundred pounds cottonseed meal. Young stock are fed ground oats, corn meal and bran mixed by equal weight, and fed as they need, according to age.

Paul Hengerveld Burke De Kol now heads the herd, and by experts has been called the finest De Kol bull ever led into the show ring. He has great style and quality, and while very handsome, combines the blood of five of the world's greatest cows, giving the wonderful combined average of twenty-eight pounds 6.6 ounces butter per week. His how has practically thirty-five first prizes to his credit, defeating three times the only animal ever winning a place over him. The cows of this herd are a living picture of those beautiful cattle, bred in Holland, and yet better bred and developed by the master breeders of America. They have a herd average of 4.80 per cent. butter fat. J. H. MEAD.

#### The Why and How of Maple Sugar.

In obedience to the law of gravity, the rain that falls upon a tree runs down the trunk, or drips from the branches. But, contrary to the law of gravity, the water in the ground flows upward as sap through the roots and inner bark to the very topmost limb of the tallest tree. This apparent conflict of natural laws arrests attention. What makes the sap climb the tree?

Apparently it ascends like the oil in the lamp wick, to support the flame; but the sap in the maple tree, and presumably in other trees, flows upward abundantly, only at a particular season and at particular states of the weather. All makers of maple sugar know that the sap flows best when there is frost in the ground, on a snowy day, with the wind from the Northwest or West. On a cloudy day, with the wind in the South or East, it will scarcely "run" at all.

It is generally supposed that the sap of the maple tree is water, holding in solution a small quantity of sugar the same as the blood of the beet and the juice of the cane; that trees take up in their sap the materials necessary to build up their structures if they are to be found in the soil where they grow. Some other trees besides maples are supplied with sugar in their sap, but the rock, or hard maple, is the one from which sugar and syrup are obtained in the largest quantity by boiling the sap.

The maple is the most widely distributed of our native trees; it is indigenous in all the Northern States, and will grow on the alkaline lands, and arid plains of the West almost as well as the cottonwood.

The enemies of the maple are the cottony maple scale, or bark louse; the leaf spot disease; the green striped maple worm; and the maple-tree borer. The former can be destroyed by spraying with kerosene emulsion, the green-striped worm by Paris green, but for the borer (the worst plague of them all) there does not appear to be any remedy.

J. W. INGHAM.

#### Vermont Farm Notes.

As winter, or the season for feeding stock, commenced unusually early, a large amount must have been made in the supply of fodder, but I hear of no shortage as yet and of but little call for hay, so it is to be hoped there is sufficient for all purposes quite in contrast with a year ago, when there was hardly enough to get through the winter with.

Farmers have been quite busy all winter with work upon the farm or road. There seems to have been more than the usual amount of logging done. There is now a good demand for almost all kinds of timber for various purposes, at paying prices, and a considerable amount is being cut, drawn to the mills and sold in the log.

I think this is quite general over the State and I presume other States as well, and the cutting of so much timber is creating some anxiety as to what the outcome will be.

The supply, of course, must be fast disappearing, and what then will be the consequence is the question. Farmers should preserve and properly care for the young growing timber for future use.

With the coming of March spring will be near at hand and farmers should be in readiness for what is to follow. With such good weather and roads the usual winter work should be completed and all things in readiness for the spring campaign.

Of course the general plan for the season's work were perfected long ago, but there is always something that needs attention and this should be given so there need be no unnecessary delay when the busy days of work are at hand.

Everything for maple sugar making should be in order for the first runs of sap, which are usually the best; the farm implements and machines should be in condition for use and the seeds for sowing and planting selected and at hand.

Franklin County, Vt. E. R. TOWLE.

#### Among the Farmers.

The keeping of accounts should be more general among farmers. I kept accounts with regard to each of my cows and found that some of them did not pay their way.—Herbert Sabin, Amherst, Mass.

Nothing is necessary in the world to stop a downward trend of industry in this country but some comprehensive machinery through which every man as fast as he gets out of work can be fed back to the land and planted there, where he will become again a worker in a productive field of industry, and a consumer as well.—George H. Maxwell, St. Louis, Mo.

Hot and cold water in sink and bathroom are as necessary to the farm house as to any other. A well-kept lawn in front of the house helps to make a farm attractive, and life on it pleasant.—S. P. Sibley, Middlesex County, Ct.



SHEEP BELONGING TO THE WELL-KNOWN I. C. LIBBY FLOCK, FAIRFIELD, MAINE.

Price winners at numerous agricultural fairs in New England. Illustrated through co-operation of Commissioner A. W. Gilman.

boards had been nailed to the studding, tattered paper was laid over it, and another thickness of boards nailed on, breaking joints carefully.

The floor is on a level with the feeding floor and is made with boards and tattered paper in the same way as the walls. This silo had a surface of 140 square feet, was seventeen feet deep and was built at a cost of \$30, aside from the labor which, as the saying is, didn't cost anything, for I did it myself. This silo has since been enlarged so that it now has a surface of two hundred square feet. The same lumber, however, was used as far as it would go, and the silo is apparently good for several years yet. This method I think is more expensive, for material, than that of building with a single layer of matched boards, but I believe it to be more durable and it affords more protection against air and rats, and any farmer who has the least skill with tools can build one. The boards should be planed on one side.

OTIS MAEDER.

Columbia, Ct.

#### Farmers' Midwinter Meeting.

The Needham Farmers and Mechanics Association held their annual midwinter all-day meeting Feb. 1, at Odd Fellows' Hall, Wellesley, a representative gathering of members from Needham, Wellesley, Sherborn, Dover and Natick being present, numbering some 125 persons. The morning session opened with President Andrew J. Whitney in the chair.

The subject for discussion was cattle raising and farming in the West. Mr. Walter B. Robinson was introduced and gave an unusually clear and interesting account of some experiences on the Colorado ranges during the seasons of '85 and '86. Two of the most severe consecutively cold winters record in that section was experienced during those years. The losses of all cattle raisers were most heavy, the company which he represented losing nearly seventy-five per cent. of their entire herd, and after the discouraging round up in the spring of only twenty-five per cent. of their cattle, it was decided to abandon the enterprise. This required some four years, and later developments during this period proved to him conclusively that with ordinary winters and under the usual conditions, the business would be highly profitable.

His description of branding the cattle, the semi-annual round-ups and the like, was of actual experience, describing the large cultivated tracts, the method of plowing, harrowing, etc., and the crops of corn and potatoes which would seem incredible to farmers in the East. He spoke of the feeling among many Western settlers, natives of our New England States, that they still looked upon the East as their home. The address was listened to by an appreciative audience, who journeyed with the speaker to the far West and were again safely landed back in New England.

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#### Improving a Large Farm.

The well-known difficulty of managing a very large farm at a satisfactory profit has attracted some notice to the results secured by Superintendent William Ronnie in his supervision of the farm owned by the Bathburn Company of Decatur, Ont. The property includes about six hundred acres, most of it rough land intersected with rocks. Before 1901 the company had been losing from \$5000 to \$6000 a year on the farm. When Mr. Ronnie took charge, he expected that it would take three years, at least, to put the farm on a self-supporting basis. The first year saw a deficit of \$2000, but on

week or two the sod was turned under. The stalks and roots of the clover provided the substance for the crops of the following seasons. The plowed land lay until fall rotting with sod, being helped by rolling and harrowing, and manure was applied in the fall.

#### Quack Cow Treatments.

Cattle owners are warned to go slowly in having anything to do with the so-called bovine-vaccine treatment. A New York drug firm advertises the treatment as a prevention of tuberculosis, but Dr. Peters of the Massachusetts State Cattle Bureau and Dr. Piereson, State veterinarian of Pennsylvania, agree that the proposed plan is of very doubtful practical value and at best needs further testing before it could possibly be recommended for general use. The treatment seems to be deserving of some attention from the experiment stations, and possibly something might be developed which would prove of real merit.

The vaccine, which is supposed to be like that employed by the German scientist, Von Behring, is nothing more or less than dried bacilli, of precisely the sort that are most frequently found in human tuberculosis. These organisms are injected into the blood and carried to all parts of the system. They might even be found in the milk when the treatment is applied to cows. Hence the need of caution with experiments of this kind. The theory is that the system is accustomed to these weakened germs and soon becomes able to resist these unweakened germs, which cause the disease of tuberculosis. Some experiments have shown results pointing in this direction, but according to Dr. Peters nothing practical has been accomplished and it would be unwise for cattle growers to undertake any such work on their herds.

## Dairy.

**Butter and Cheese Still Higher.**  
Butter is in extremely light receipt, with little on sale beside storage. Quotations are still higher, but a little below the extreme New York quotations. The high prices are of little advantage to producers on account of the small output, and the encouragement which is given to the use of the various substitutes.

The butter consumers complain of extreme dullness of business caused by the high prices prevailing. The opinion prevails that not only is the quantity of butter used somewhat reduced, but quite a large class of trade is accepting the various substitutes. The demand for the low grades of butter is far greater than usual, and indicates that many who commonly use choice butter are finding themselves able to pay for only the cheaper kinds. It is thought that many of the middle-grade boarding houses and hotels who commonly buy creamy and dairy goods are now using considerable imitation and factory butter.

With a continued active demand from nearly all sections and steadily reducing stocks the cheese market is in a strong position, with the tendency of prices still upward. Official quotations advanced one-fourth of a cent more this week on all grades of full cream cheese and the advance was duly warranted by the general conditions. Buyers so far have followed the advancing market with little objection and the market is certainly in healthy position, with no question but what all the old cheese available will be wanted, with, in fact, fears expressed that should trade keep up as active as for the two or three weeks there would be an actual scarcity of old cheese before the close of the season. Skims in very light remaining stock, with scarcely any fine skims to be found.

Latest cable advices from the principal markets in Great Britain to George A. Cochran give butter markets as unchanged in value. Receipts are large from the Antipodes and buyers ask concessions which receivers generally resist, as receipts after this will be lighter. Finest grades of Danish, 23 to 24 cents; New Zealand, 21 to 22 cents; Australian 20 to 21½ cents; Argentine, 20 to 21½ cents; Russian, 20 to 21 cents. Under grades continue scarce. Cheese markets show no improvement, and to effect sales concessions are necessary. Holders generally anticipate improved market conditions. Finest American and Canadian 10½ to 11½ cents.

The oleo men in Pittsburg have been having a strenuous time with the authorities lately, numerous cases of arrest and fine having occurred. The high price of butter seems to be a temptation too strong to be resisted owing to the big profits in selling clear oleo without branding or paying a tax. It is said that some of the dealers who have been repeatedly arrested and fined \$100 each time have made more than enough out of the illegal business to show a considerable profit over all "expenses."

## Agricultural.

## How the Devon Breeders Organized.

At the suggestion of many breeders, a meeting was called to assemble in Pittsburg, March, 1884, and there was formed the Devon Cattle Club. Prominent breeders were present including E. D. Hicks of Tennessee; J. M. Miller, W. D. Wetmore, J. B. Longenecker and J. W. Dobbs of Pennsylvania; J. Buckingham, D. J. Whitmore, P. Palmer and F. W. Reed of Ohio; A. W. Runsey of New York; J. P. Fish and Son of Vermont; L. P. Sisson of West Virginia. The first officers of the club were as follows: J. M. Miller, president; E. D. Hicks, vice-president; F. W. Reed, secretary. Executive Committee, J. M. Miller, E. D. Hicks, J. Buckingham, B. F. Peck, J. P. Fish, Edward Hungerford and L. P. Sisson.

At a subsequent meeting the committee to purchase the Devon Records reported that for a consideration of \$300 they had purchased the records and office fixtures from Mr. J. Buckingham, the same to be known hereafter as the property of the American Devon Cattle Club. When Mr. Sisson was chosen secretary, the club office was removed from Zanesville, O., to Wheeling, W. Va., where it remained until 1900, when the office was moved to Newark, O., where it is still located, the officers of the club at present are: Dr. J. C. Morris, Philadelphia, Pa., president; J. Banker, Upperville, Pa., vice-president; L. P. Sisson, Newark, O., secretary and treasurer. The attractive farm and herd of President Morris were described not long ago in this paper.

Secretary L. P. Sisson has been identified with Devon cattle from his early boyhood days. His grandfather, Lewis Sisson, brought to what is now Ohio County, W. Va. (then Virginia) the first Devon bull ever in that section. This bull was bought from the noted herd of George Patterson of Sykesville, Md. After the death of his grandfather, his father, J. E. Sisson, continued the breeding of Devons, getting his bulls at different times from Mr. Patterson, until his death, then from Mr. Patterson's successor, S. T. C. Brown and his son, Frank Brown, all of Sykesville, Md.

J. E. Sisson also bought several Devon cows from the Patterson herd, from these cows he traced a great many now in West Virginia. After J. E. Sisson retired from active life L. P. Sisson still bred Devons up to the time he was chosen secretary of the club in 1890, since which time he has not bred any Devons.

## Vegetable Trade Fairly Steady.

The potato market continues weak and over-supplied with no improvement in prices. Only choice lots bring as high as 45 cents per bushel in large bulk lots. Onions are plenty and not in very brisk demand, but prices hold about steady. The onion market has been managed well this year, the market having been just enough stock to keep prices firm. The stock in western Massachusetts has been kept by large companies with good storage facilities who have not been obliged to ship until the onions were needed. Cabbages are plenty and at about unchanged prices. Squashes continue plenty, despite the lateness of the season but show no further gain in prices. Southern vegetables, especially string beans, are scarce and high.

Accounts from all parts of New York State show the stock of potatoes in farmers' hands still very large, probably larger than in many years past at this time of year, and in the districts some distance from the larger markets wholesale prices are as low as 20 to 25 cents per bushel. Many farmers are refusing to part with their crop at any such price, while others seem willing to realize almost any price. The gap between such quotations and the figures which are paid by the consumers in large cities is something tremendous and very suggestive of the disproportionate share, sometimes secured by the middlemen.

## Hay Firm and Quiet.

The market for hay in Boston continues quiet and steady, and demand for the choice grades is sufficient to strengthen quotations slightly. Lower grades are dull, with prices unchanged. Rye straw is in quiet demand, and prices must be revised a little lower to cover range of actual sales.

The general condition of the leading markets indicates plenty of hay to meet the demand and no great surplus and no particularly large shipments on the way. Choice grades are selling promptly. Low-grade hay is everywhere dull. The general average of prices is practically the same as last week in Eastern markets. The average of the Western and Southern markets show a gain of a few cents per ton. The following shows the highest prices for hay, as reported for the Hay Trade Journal in the markets mentioned: Boston \$17, New York \$16.50, Jersey City \$17, Brooklyn \$16, Philadelphia \$15.50, Pittsburgh \$13, Buffalo \$13.50, Montreal \$9.50, Baltimore \$15.50, Nashville \$14.50, Richmond \$14, New Orleans \$17, Chicago \$13, Kansas City \$10, Minneapolis \$8, St. Paul \$8, St. Louis \$12.50, Cincinnati \$12.25.

## Provisions Quiet and Steady.

Pork provisions hold firm and Western markets show some little advance. The only change in the local market is in hams, which in most grades are higher by a fraction of a cent. There is nothing in local conditions to affect prices, the total arrivals for slaughter being about the same as for the preceding week. The export market is fairly active.

Beef has been held at steady prices with the market fully supplied. Arrivals for the week were 175 cars, which is rather less than usual for the season and a little less than last week. Lambs and muttons are selling at steady to strong prices and veal are firm. Poultry holds at steady prices, receipts continuing light and demand being somewhat reduced by the rather high range of prices.

## Poultry Prices Firm.

Reported for this paper by S. L. Burr & Co.: "The receipts of poultry continue light and there is a strong tone to the market and prices remain practically the same as they were last week. Nearby chickens are selling from 15 to 20 cents according to quality; choice fowls are selling from 15 to 16 cents, common fowls 13 to 14 cents; ducks from 15 to 17 cents. As eggs have sold very well the past year at good prices, farmers will hold many of their fowls and pallets back for eggs and this will prevent considerable poultry from coming on the market, that otherwise would be shipped. The weather has been very cold in the West and with bad roads the receipts of poultry are very light at all shipping points, and we look for a continued good demand for some weeks to come on all kinds of poultry."

The scarcity of fresh poultry attracts some attention. Dealers reason that farmers are holding back their old stock, because of the high prices of eggs. Even a two-year-old hen will lay eggs enough to pay a profit when eggs are high in spring. Poultry and eggs have both been high for several years, and it is thought that poultry raisers as a class are keeping back more stock for breeding, in order to increase their flock and egg yield this year. It would not be surprising if a period of correspondingly low prices should follow within a few years the same as has happened in the past, and the same as occurs with nearly all farm products. High prices induce over-production and over-production brings about low prices. The scarcity of fresh poultry is made up to some extent by a good-sized stock of frozen poultry which the large packing houses keep over from last fall and early winter. These holdings are not at all excessive, and seem likely to go at good prices as long as the present scarcity of fresh stock continues.

Western advice is very firm, especially on fowls and prices at New York are held slightly higher in sympathy, but the demand is quite limited at the advance. Fresh turkeys very scarce and the few coming are generally poor. Fresh chickens are nearly all coarse and starchy and of irregular value. Fancy large carous and firm, but small and medium sizes sell slowly.

## Horticultural.

## Vermont Horticulturists Meet.

(Concluded from last week)

## MARKET GARDENING FOR LOCAL TRADE.

The Friday morning session opened promptly at 9:30 A. M. Market gardening, according to L. H. Sheldon, is a business one must grow into. Start on a small scale and develop your market and business together. The possibilities of developing home market is surprising. Grow good vegetables, put them up tastily and you will have no trouble increasing your business. Advertise in local newspapers, taking space by the year, keep your customers informed as to what you have for sale and you will have no difficulty in disposing of it.

## ASPARAGUS.

N. E. Jack of Chateaugay Basin, Province of Quebec, thinks asparagus culture is not difficult if one has a suitable location, a light warm loam soil comparatively free from stones and well drained. Selection of varieties is dependent on whether the market wants purple or white stalks. Green varieties least subject to rust. Palmette and Argentillium seem to be quite disease resistant.

## THE GROWING OF PLANTS AND CUT FLOWERS.

by G. E. Hunt of Rutland, was handled from the standpoint of the practical gardener. The florist's love for plants and cut flowers is two-fold as he grows them both for pleasure and profit. Carnations were considered the best all-round florist's flower. They were suitable for all kinds of work.

## COLOR AND QUALITY.

"Sunshine," according to Rev. George W. Perry, is the physical force that furnishes energy for the building up of the tree and fruit. It gives the apple better color in the North, improves its quality and consequently its money value. We plant our trees far apart and keep the tops open in order to let the sunshine in. The commonly accepted notion that fruit trees planted on a northern slope are less subject to winter injury was not thought to be well founded. The writer would advocate warm sunny slopes, thinks the cold resistance of the buds is practically determined by the amount of sunshine they have received the previous season. Seasons in which we have a maximum amount of sunshine, all other conditions being equal, the fruit buds ripen up and are better able to withstand a rigorous winter. When the frost lands of the Champlain Valley are better understood

## Hay Firm and Quiet.

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## and appreciated they will more than double in value.

## THE BERRY PATCH.

Mrs. Etta W. LePage thought that one of the important duties of the farmer was to provide for a small fruit plantation of sufficient size to at least furnish a liberal supply for the family. There is a good profit in growing small fruits for the market, especially when this market is a local one. The writer advised beginning in a small way and enlarging the business as the demands for your products increased.

## NEW IDEAS.

In speaking of the "Recent and Important Changes which have taken place in Fruit Growing," Prof. F. A. Waugh divided the development of pomology into three periods. In the first period a great deal of attention was given to description of varieties. The second period was largely devoted to the development of the practical phases of pomology, that is, to the planting and care of the orchard or small fruits plantation. The third and more recent development deals with the business end of fruit growing, that is, the selling of the fruit. This last phase of pomology is an important one because the price received depends so much upon the ability of the grower to harvest, pack and market his fruit, that it may almost be given precedence over all else, at least when it comes to dollars and cents. Cropping and double planting of orchards were considered desirable in the early management of the young orchard. Recent changes in marketing, especially with regard to packages, was discussed at some length. The bushel box and four quart basket for fancy fruit and markets were thought profitable to adopt.

## SPRAYING FOR RESULTS.

Professor Waugh's address was followed by Professor Stuart, whose paper had been carried over from the day previous. The speaker thought that the chief factors militating against a wider use of fungicides were due to the natural aversion of the ordinary farmer to prepare fungicides; to inadequate spray pumps and nozzles; and, as a result of these combined factors, so little visible results are obtained as to lead them to regard the whole operation with skepticism. Experiments for the past two seasons at the Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station have evolved a method of making Bordeaux mixture, which is thought to lessen the labor of its preparation and at the same time insure a perfect spray mixture. It was thought that a better knowledge of fungous diseases in general, and in the preparation of fungicides would enable the fruit grower to more successfully combat diseases. We need to know what remedy to employ and at what particular time to apply it. One application made at the proper time is worth a dozen as to what you have for sale and you will have no difficulty in disposing of it.

## PROTECTIVE COATING.

The onions shipped from Boston to England seem to have found a pretty good market, as quotations at Liverpool were \$3 per bushel of 100 pounds. A few lots were shipped to Belgium and Holland as an experiment, but the results have not as yet been made public.

Colorado potato growers are said to be rather nervous over the outlook for the sale of nearly seven thousand carloads of this year's crop still on hand. On account of cost of freight to the principal markets, it is difficult to sell them at a price that will not increase. Others are confident that the Western and Southern demand will hold up strongly and that prices will certainly not go back. In that case they will have little risk by holding later and have a good chance to get better prices than those now ruling.

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The new cranberry market in western Virginia is claimed to have produced fruit of very excellent quality the past season and the account states that the bugs in that section averaged \$1.52 per acre, net profit, on a yield of eighty-four bushels to the acre.

The weather in Florida following the recent freeze was favorable to a gradual thawing out. It is thought that the orange trees were injured less severely than was feared at first. Of course the greater part of the fruit on the trees was badly frozen, but the prospects of the present year's crop are probably not greatly lessened.

The trucking season in Texas is reported much later than usual because of the cold weather. The blizzard caused damage in some sections, but not so great as it would have if the season had been further advanced. The main effect in the State as a whole is to make the crop still later. Some tomato plants were lost, and onions more or less damaged. Fruit buds seem to have been uninjured on account of their backward condition.

The strawberry crop in central Florida is stated to have been reduced from one-fourth to one-half as the result of the freeze in the case of fields, which were more or less protected with straw covering or mulch. In unprotected fields the loss seems to have been greater, amounting in some cases to two-thirds of the crop.

Reports from the vegetable farms of Cuba relate that the big freeze extended to that island, producing frost and severe injury to such tender crops as tomatoes. This is the first killing frost reported in Cuba for the past twenty-five years, and in speaking of the origin of radish, it is said that the amount of helium in the composition of root, possibly affords an internal record of the rock. It is early to offer a reliable assertion as to the origin of radish, yet there is reason for believing that radish is its parent and predecessor. Possibly, therefore, radish is an unstable element and slowly degenerates atom by atom into radium through the action of radon.

Radium is a radioactive element and the half-life of radon is approximately 3.8 days. Radon is a gas and is easily absorbed by the body. Personal idiosyncrasies play a large part in determining the amount of radon that can be tolerated. The smoking of cigarettes or of cigars may, equally with the pipe, lead to amyloma in varying degrees, given a suitable subject. Any condition which lowers the general health may be a factor, but some persons who are healthy are equally in the best of health are susceptible. Alcohol indulgence is in many cases a contributing factor, but it is by no means essential. It is nicotine which, getting into the blood, selects certain nerve fibers (particularly the pupillary-macular fibers in the optic nerves) for its injurious action; and the stronger the tobacco—the greater will be the amyloma effect in the susceptible person. Cases have been recorded in which quite small quantities of tobacco, even so little as half an ounce a week, have been sufficient to cause definite amyloma.

DEATH FROM ELECTRICITY.—"K. P." While death is produced almost instantly by the passage through the human body of alternating currents of high voltage, such as are generated in electrical practice, yet the currents of enormous strength produced by Mr. Tesla it is possible for them to pass through the body without the slightest injury. It has, of course, been known that the Tesla currents are of extremely high frequency as compared with the ordinary current, as well as of high voltage, but it was thought that they passed over the surface of the body rather than through it, and thus did no damage. Lately Professor Nernst has shown the Bunsen Society of Berlin that this effect is due to the high frequency of the current, which actually does pass through the body, but so rapid are its alternations that it does not have time to effect any change in the tissue. This he has shown conclusively in a series of experiments where he passed a high-frequency current through his hand and then through the legs of frogs.

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Transfers are recorded free if presented within 90 days, \$1 each.

## Value of Swamp Lands.

Most farmers in hilly or rolling sections are familiar with swamps or black soils. In some sections nearly every farm has a low, wet place where the soil is black and sticky. In the middle West, notably in Indiana and Illinois and adjoining States, there are large areas of these swamps or black lands which are called "unproductive" and frequently are not cultivated. In fact, so much of this land is found in the two States just mentioned that the experiment stations have made a special study of this class of soils. Farmers have generally

theory it ought to be nearly as rich as manure, yet it is true that swamp lands seldom give permanent satisfaction without some form of fertilizer.

What is the matter with the soils?

The answer, by chemical analysis and practical experience alike, is that they lack available potash. In Indiana analyses were made of many such soils and in every case a deficiency of potash was shown. In most cases there was less than one-tenth of the potash found in average soils throughout the State. The following analysis, taken from Bulletin No. 95 of the

growing moss. Both nitrogen and phosphorus enter into fairly stable organic combinations with the carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, and when the mass changes to peat, and even when the peat partially decays, these two elements, nitrogen and phosphorus (especially the nitrogen), are largely retained in the organic matter. The potassium, however, reverts more largely to the soluble form, and it is finally lost to a greater or less extent in the drainage waters flowing from the peat bogs.

"A considerable number of peaty swamp soils from different places in the State have been analyzed by the experiment station, and they are found to be very rich in nitrogen, well supplied with phosphorus, but very deficient in potassium, as compared with the ordinary fertile soils of the State."

Farmers are not always ready to accept such scientific theories without proof which they can understand—that is the actual results with crops. Ample proof of this kind has been given by both the Illinois and Indiana Experiment Stations. In Indiana it was found that many of these tracts of swamp land were very hard to drain. Of course they could not be permanently improved until the surface water was removed. Where water stands thirty inches below the surface such a crop as corn cannot be

dried bushels of corn contain fifty-two pounds of potash, while the grain contains nineteen pounds, or seventy-one in all. As the stalks grow before the ears are formed, they will exhaust the potash in the soil, if it is deficient, so that when the ears are made there is little potash left for them.

The result will be small and imperfect ears and poor grain. One Illinois farmer gave a good illustration of this. His soil was a black peat sixteen inches deep. The experiment station used it for growing corn, and among other chemicals used potash at the rate of two hundred pounds per acre. The result was that no ear corn was produced where no potash was used, while in every case where potash was added, alone or with other chemicals, from thirty-six to sixty bushels of corn per acre were grown. The owner of this farm saw how potash produced corn and he was so impressed with the results that he decided to use potash again. The following year he used fifty pounds of muriate of potash per acre. The result was a good crop of stalks but no ear corn. We can easily see the reason for this. There was little or no available potash in the soil. The corn crop was obliged to depend upon what was added in the muriate of potash. The stalks alone required fifty-two pounds of potash

ditions, and having a variety of foods always before them, will go from one to another selecting from each only the amount which their systems require.

GRACE F. BARBER.

The report that the czar and his advisers

have formally discussed the question of peace

with Japan is confidently expected, without

any way, outside of the usual diplomatic

channels, made known the terms on which it

would agree to peace. This latter idea has

nothing substantial to support it. It is safe to

assume that any early prospect of peace, if there

is any such, would lie in the sea of internal diffi-

culties rising about the government. The effect

of the killing of Sergius is problematical. Friends

of Russia are likely to deplore his assassination

on the ground that it may serve as a pre-

text on the part of those who control the

czar in delaying the reform measures

which undoubtedly were about to be forced

upon the autocracy by the espousal of the

cause of the people by the nobility and the

pressure of foreign sentiment. The czar,

who was vacillating between granting re-

form and keeping the autocracy intact is likely

to be profoundly shocked by the event, and to

throw the weight of his influence, whatever that

is, onto the side of the extreme conservatives.

Coming just at this moment when he had

made known his views in favor of a Zemsky

Sobor which might have played an important

part in the present crisis in Russia, the outcome

of the incident will be watched with the keenest

interest.

## \$4000 IN PRIZES.

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Look for the Maker's Name or Trademark.

In all lines of merchandise, goods which have become well and favorably known are often imitated and sold to the consumer with the assurance that they are "just as good" as the articles which bear the maker's name or trademark, while as a matter of fact such goods are often "seconds" or goods of inferior quality, for which reason the maker will not show the name or trademark. Manufacturers who have built up a valued reputation for quality.

Manufacturers usually make several grades of goods, and are careful that their best grades shall bear their name or trademark to advertise the excellence of their products, and it follows that they are not only willing but anxious to immediately replace any article so guaranteed to have been made by them and which may prove defective in any way. This is especially true with articles usually sold by hardware stores. It is a common practice with manufacturers of these lines to dispose of their inferior grades under what is known to the trade as "special brands," and also to furnish such goods to buyers of large quantities marked with the buyer's "private brand"; needless to add that private brands are usually from inferior material. The user will make the lowest price on a season's quantity, carry no assurance of quality, and it behoves the consumer who desires quality and manufacturer's guarantee to see that goods bear maker's name or trademark.

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## THE PAUNTON COURT HEREFORDS.

The animal representing the above herd at the St. Louis International is "Happy Christmas" (2142). He was born in 1895 and has been in the herd ever since. He has been exhibited in the main herd for two seasons and has proved himself, and acknowledged as the best bull in the country. He is the only bull ever left English soil. He sired first and second prize calves, open to all England. FIRKINS, Bishop's Fron, Herefordshire.

## ATTRACTIVE COTTAGE FOR SALE.



The two accompanying sketches herewith represent a modern dwelling house with a large stable 26x30, an annex, ice-house and shed, spring water, with a beautiful pine grove, all situated on a four-acre village plot of high ground, well drained in the valley of the Mad River, in Campton Village, New Hampshire. Only a few minutes from Boston & Maine Railroad, churches, schools and postoffices. Telephone connections.

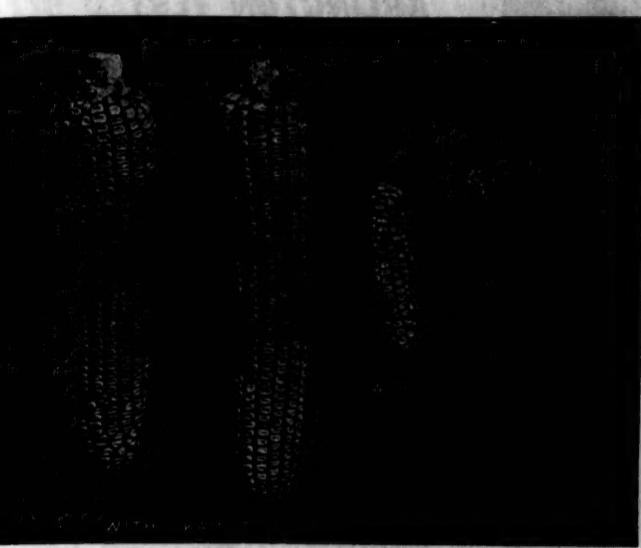
Main house is two-story with 14 rooms, in excellent repair and newly painted, wide piazza all around the house. Over four acres of land. Very large and fine shade trees, also many choice fruit trees. A location unusually attractive and healthy, with superb mountain scenery and charming drives.



This property is for sale, to close an estate, at a heavy discount from cost. Must be seen to be fully appreciated. Fully furnished. Furniture will be sold, if desired, to the purchaser of the real estate. For price and other particulars, address

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AVERAGE SAMPLES OF CORN GROWN ON SWAMP LAND, WITH AND WITHOUT KAINIT.

Test made by Experiment Station of Indiana.

been taught to believe that the black soils are naturally very rich in plant food.

"The swamps ought to be rich since they have received for centuries the drainage from the hills."

We often hear farmers make that statement and there is much truth in it. Many of these places represent the bottoms of old ponds, the water having dried out or escaped in some way so as to leave the bottom bare. Here nature has locked up great treasures of plant food, and in doing so, as we shall see, carried the key away with her.

**TWO METHODS OF HANDLING.**  
such soils have been tried, both based on the theory that swamp soil or muck contains a well-balanced ratio of all needed plant food. The mistake in the theory is

Indiana station shows, in part, the composition of such a soil: Top soil: Nitrogen, 3.22 per cent., phosphoric acid, 0.46 per cent., potash, 0.05 per cent.; sub-soil: Nitrogen, 2.84 per cent., phosphoric acid, 0.27 per cent., potash, 0.10 per cent.

In some cases a chemical analysis of a soil is of little value to the farmer, but this one gives a clue to the solution of a puzzling farm problem. Here we have a soil containing as much nitrogen as a large proportion of the chemical fertilizers offered for sale, three or four times as much phosphoric acid as a good average soil, but only about one-tenth as much potash as will be found in average clay loam. It is easily seen from this why such soil fails to produce good crops year after year. There is

successfully grown. Since it was impossible for the owners of such lands to drain them thoroughly by ordinary means, experiments were made to see what temporary improvement could be made in the crops. Part of the land selected for the experiments was plowed in the ordinary way. Another part was subsoiled in addition, that is, after plowing, a subsoil plow was run deeper in each furrow, not turning the lower soil over but simply breaking it up. Plots of equal size in each portion were laid out, one being planted as it stood to test the natural capacity of the soil. On another plot kainit at the rate of one ton per acre was used, on another the same amount of kainit and lime at the rate of five tons per acre, and another an equal amount of lime alone. The kainit contained no plant food but potash. The object in using the lime alone and with the kainit was to test the oft-repeated claim that lime will set such soils right.

The following table shows the results:

Addition	Yield per Acre.	Sound Corn	Poor Corn	Fodder Tons
	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	
None	29.6	11.4	1.30	
Kainit	32.8	4.8	2.48	
Kainit & Lime	52.4	6.8	2.48	
Lime	25.1	11.6	1.48	
				SUB-SOIL
None	18.1	1.9	1.04	
Kainit	6.8	2.8	2.48	
Kainit & Lime	52.0	2.2	2.21	
Lime	15.4	10.5	1.04	
	4.9	12.0	0.96	

No one could ask for stronger evidence than this. It is exactly what we had a right to expect from the analysis of the soil. Not only was the potash in the soil deficient as compared with other soils, but what there was present was unavailable to plants. When the kainit was used as a fertilizer the corn received what it needed, and gave a fair crop even on this poorly drained soil. Take the average of the two plots, and the natural soil gave only 17.35 bushels of sound corn and 11.30 bushels of poor corn. The average of the plots where kainit was used shows 58.8 bushels of sound and 3.35 of poor corn. There can be no question that this increase was due to the potash in the kainit. The use of lime alone was not satisfactory. We see from the table that the soil needed was potash. The lime could not furnish potash or set it free in the soil, and thus it fails to produce the crop. Not only is this so, but you will notice that where the kainit was used the proportion of poor corn is lowest. It is always the rule that an abundant supply of potash insures a plump ear, well filled to the tip. The benefit was not confined to the first year. For ten years after the kainit was used there was an increase in yield. In eleven years this gain over the natural soil amounted to 39.1 bushels per acre, which represents the gain from using one ton of kainit. At the average selling price of thirty-five cents per bushel this means \$207.00. In every case where potash has been used on these black, unproductive soils the gain in the crop yields has been remarkable.

The results on similar soils in Illinois, as recorded in Bulletin No. 93



TELEPHONE NO. 3707 MAIN.

Cupid is reported to have brought Marconi a \$20,000 a year dowry. Hurrah! Hurrah!

It is safe to record the man of sixty-five years, who recently danced himself to death, as a dead-game sport.

Is the navy wicked? asks a contemporary. The answer probably depends more or less on the individual midshipman.

Japan is winning such general respect that one shudders to realize how difficult it is to keep her won't.

Really, you know, Gotham can hardly expect the Hub to take much stock in this newly discovered statue by Praxiteles.

And now comes the hint from Washington of a possible submarine scandal. Obviously that will be a low down business.

Perhaps Dr. Oster will eventually take it all back. And then again perhaps he didn't mean just what he is reported to have said.

Obviously the training obtained at foot-ball didn't prevent certain former Carlyle players from deserting from the regular army.

Mr. Benner, the trade prophet, predicts four more years of prosperous conditions. This carries a cheerful condition well over the next administration.

Either way you look at the situation, it is not so very surprising that liquor should be a drag on the market in several of our no-license suburban communities.

Now that Gotham is hinting at a world's fair to commemorate Hudson, why shouldn't the Hub turn its attention to some similar festivity—a Pocahontas exposition, for example.

The Adirondack deer may not ordinarily bless the sportsmen; but it's the sportsmen who are just now paying the guides to help keep the deer from starvation during an uncommonly hard winter.

Abigail Prue's financial difficulties we have seen so often and successfully obviated on the stage that it is an uncommonly striking irony of fate to find them in real life actually spelling bankruptcy.

One of the latest uses for canned foods is that made by the gang of imprisoned convicts, who recently succeeded in setting up a full-fledged counterfeiting outfit, and got their metal by melting the cans.

After their brief appearance in the public annals the "Aggie" students are back at their books again bringing their honor with them. And honor appears to be even sufficiently placated to offer an apology.

Since the formation of fire brigades at Wellesley we shall feel more than ever confident that no graduates of that institution will attempt to encourage the reluctant kitchen fire by a libation of kerosene.

If Boston's obvious candidate, the American Peace Society, enters for the Nobel prize and doesn't get it, it will be interesting anyway to see what organization or individual has a finer record for efforts looking toward universal peace.

Alas for romance! Three or four years ago a young man in Connecticut rescued a young woman from drowning. Then they married, as was pretty and proper. And now the once-happy man has disappeared and the once-happy woman is suing for divorce.

Alas, even the heroic accomplishments of Buffalo Bill are no insurance against marital infelicities. One may judge that the gallant Colonel has paraphrased the well worn definition of a good Indian and decided that the only good helmsman is a divorced one.

After a heated debate the Women's Political Study Club of Bayonne, N. J., has formally decided that a woman should salute the flag precisely as a man does. Lacking details we can only judge by inference that one of the alternatives suggested was to throw a kiss at it.

Paper money, says a bacteriological expert, will afford transportation for a germ for two months; while metal would carry the same undesirable passenger only about twenty-four hours. Now will you continue to insist upon getting your change in bills rather than silver?

If a good start is sufficient, the Connecticut State Forestry experiment ought to succeed. 975 acres having been bought at \$1.68 per acre. This is sprout land somewhat remotely situated but suitable for the purpose, and obtained at a price which can hardly fail to show profit if wisely managed.

Trying to secure a law that shall forbid matrimony between white Americans and persons having more than one-eighth Filipino blood, appears rather a roundabout way for Indians parents to insure their daughters against flirtation with Filipino students at a co-educational college. It would be surer and simpler to take the girls out of school.

In his speech before the Boston Produce Exchange, Governor Bell of Vermont urged the boys on the farms to educate themselves along the lines of raising something they like and in which they can take a hearty interest. By steady industry and attention they could become as successful in any of the professions.

Dr. Jordan aptly calls attention to the fact that new fads, like soil inoculation, will not cover sins of cultivation, fertilization and the like. The relative importance of these new ideas is always enlarged at first because, so to speak, we hold them close to the eye. The old rules of farming are still of most importance in securing practical results.

The campaign against cattle disease has been carried on quietly in Maine the past year. The commissioners have not been hunting for diseased animals, but examined suspicious cases only on request of the owners. The number of cattle and horses found sick shows, however, a tendency to increase. During the years 1899-1900, the number killed and paid for was 362, while during 1903-1904, the number was 799, cost-

ing the State over \$27,000. When tests were made and no disease found the expense was borne by the owner.

Tropical fruit growing seems to be something of a gamble of late years. A bearing Florida orange grove costs \$750 to \$1000 per acre. It is liable to be made worthless as the result of a single spell of cold weather. Judging, however, by the present low prices of oranges, some of the fruit must have escaped the freeze. There is not much stock on sale now that bears evidence of having been frozen. The fruit growers of Jamaica Island are likewise in hard luck, a recent tornado having destroyed about sixty thousand banana trees in the northern and eastern sections. The storm was followed by cold weather which did further injury.

College boys are of the age and condition which joins the cleanliness and rash judgment of boyhood with the energy and self assertion of budding manhood. Hence some vexations problems are often unexpectedly presented to their teachers. Not until the graduate looks back upon college ways and notions from the perspective of ten years or more experience does he fully appreciate the amusing irony of the term college "man," as applied to the youthful student to himself. The mixup at the Massachusetts Agricultural College is perhaps one of those ridiculously serious affairs, which, if handled with tact, will be merely a subject of laughter for all concerned in later years. It is not exactly an unheard-of occurrence for a whole class of young folks to turn themselves out of school on some pretext or other, but usually sober second thought and a letter or two from home puts a different face on the matter. These young agricultural seniors will be likely to swallow their dose in the shape of an apology and be on hand for their sheepskinning on Commencement day.

The feeling of dissatisfaction seems to be increasing among fruit growers in regard to the prices received in the large city markets. Some declare that the commission men, when fruit is plenty return as little as they dare to the shipper. Others, while admitting that the commission men do the best they can, under the circumstances, think it is time for the more enterprising dealers to unite and have a special salesman in each of the large markets to sell their fruit. Not all growers are so fortunate as Mr. T. L. Kinney of Vermont, who has a son in the fruit commission business in Boston, and who obtains good prices for superb fruit of the Kinney orchard. A difficulty in using a special agent is that the work lasts only for a part of the year, and the amount of strictly choice fruit is so limited that there is some doubt whether a standard business could be built up. It is not likely that the special agents could do any better with ordinary fruit than for regular dealers.

A Great Engineering Work Finished. The Simplon tunnel is at last completed, and France and Germany are now connected with Italy by three railway tunnels, the Mont Cenis and the St. Gotthard, that go through Switzerland, and the Simplon, which is two miles longer than either of the other bores and as a piece of engineering skill is their superior.

The engineers of the Simplon have encountered many obstructions in the course of its construction, in the appearance of both hot springs and cold springs but the workers were eventually cooled by the grapple with the detaining waters. The cost of the three magnificent tunnels was forty million dollars in round numbers but they were worth this expenditure since they will increase the usefulness of railroad traffic and practically annihilate the snow-capped barriers destructive to the comfort of the traveler who is desirous of rapid transit and not in search of mountain climbing in pursuit of the picturesque.

The noted places of the earth are getting nearer to each other every day, though we have not yet stretched a tunnel across the Atlantic and are still to bring the flying machine to perfection. But with three tunnels through the Alps, not very far apart, when the rapidity of modern travel is considered, we are moving on to the golden-age of railroad facilities.

About A Prayer. Some times well intentioned people who set out to reformers carry their efforts for the improvement of old customs too far. Not long ago there was an onslaught made on dear old Santa Claus, and there was an attempt made to bury him under the snow over which he came so gayly with his team of reindeers. But the venerable gentleman was not to be put down. He had been too long going down chimneys to be dismissed from the service of gift givers. Unlike Othello his occupation was not gone and he still continues to make his appearance on Christmas Eve in spite of the fact that he has been accused of being an old fraud. He has put to flight Grindgrids, who would do away with all fairy stories because they are not facts, and now reigns triumphantly over the hanging stocking and the candle-lighted tree. Children still believe in him, and it is to be hoped that they will continue their faith in his fidelity until the end of time.

And now come certain iconoclasts, so to speak, who want to destroy the prayer beginning "Now I lay me down to sleep," and substitute for it some colorless verses that will make little impression on the child mind. They want to eliminate the thought of death, which appears in the old petition, as it were necessary to teach the child that the body is an immortal as the soul. The Mothers' Council of Chicago recommends the change though we are told that New England mothers with the good hard sense of their Puritan ancestors are opposed to the substitution of anything for the old words:

If I should die before I wake  
I pray the Lord my soul to take.

The Rev. Dr. Henson of Tremont Temple is not in sympathy with this "reform." He says he has brought up eleven children and they all said the Lord's Prayer and "Now I lay me down to sleep." "It did not hurt them one bit, and they all had the tenderest of memories of the lit in prayer. . . . There may be many things that our forefathers did which we could improve on. On the other hand, there are many, many things that we are getting away from that it would do us a great deal of good to stick to. This same little prayer in one of them." Dr. Henson is quite right in his conclusions, though we have, no doubt, many members of the Mothers' Council who are honest in their opinion that they are doing a good work in attempting to banish the prayer from the bedside.

However, we believe that it has come to stay, like "The Pilgrim's Progress." It has been said too often by both Protestants

and Catholics to be snuffed out by a convention. Its light will continue to shine when this generation and other generations have passed away.



SOME OF THE BUILDINGS OF A LARGE RHODE ISLAND PIGGERY.

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## The Pardonning Power.

There seems to be at the present time more than usual activity in the efforts to secure the pardons of persons who have been sentenced to State Prison for life for the crime of murder. Without passing on the cases which have induced these movements, we may say that generally attempts of this kind are not to be encouraged.

One reason why the preservation of the death penalty is urged is that criminals who are sentenced to life imprisonment are pardoned after they have been a comparatively few years behind the bars, and that assassins, if they were only given a sentence for life, would eventually be at large, through the pardoning power, because their behavior in prison had been exemplary.

We do not believe in solitary confinement for years, for that has a tendency to brutalize a prisoner, and this portion of a penalty may well be remitted. Those who have murderous thoughts in their hearts must be taught that if they yield to their temptations they will be forever shut out from the world, though they may see the faces of their fellow convicts. There has been too much coddling of the worst kind of prisoners of late years. Indeed, they have been made heroes and heroines by foolish men and women, until they have really come to the opinion they have been much abused, and have as much right to be free as any of their neighbors. The death penalty may be an undesirable relic of the past, but life imprisonment is unsound and fit only for feed for live stock.

The latest estimates of the wheat crop of Australia in 1904-5 are about 54,720,000 bushels, against 53,512,000 bushels in 1903-4.

A commercial estimate puts the 1904 wheat crop of Michigan at about four million bushels, sixteen per cent. of which is un-

## Preluce Notes.

A Chicago firm has been shipping apples to Cuba at a profit.

Field beans are selling well at somewhat improved prices. It is reported that certain Boston dealers cornered the supply to a certain extent and thus raised prices. If so, all the better for the growers who have not yet sold.

Cranberries of choice quality and firm, sound condition are not very abundant and the price has been improving. The Boston market is somewhat below that of New York, which is just now the best selling destination for fancy lots. Poor and frozen lots sell low in both markets. Frozen Florida oranges are beginning to arrive and sell low. Many of the strawberries were evidently frozen and these sell at lower than the regular market. Good Florida bring 50 to 60 cents, with frozen ones selling at 25 cents.

Cranberries had the improved prices last quoted, but are in somewhat light demand on account of the abundance of apples, oranges, etc. Strawberries hold about steady. Strictly fancy ones would bring more than prices quoted, but none are arriving, and but few can be expected for the present.

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# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN, SATURDAY, MARCH 4 1905

## The Markets.

### BOSTON LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

ARRIVALS OF LIVE STOCK AT WATERTOWN AND BRIGHTON.  
For the week ending March 1, 1905.

	Sheep	and	Pork
Cattle	3343	3319	26,552
Sheep	5432	26,033	121
Last week	4288	8228	8
One year ago	3360	27,500	1816
Horses, 336			

Prices on Northern Cattle.

BEEF—Extra, \$5.35@6.00; first quality, \$5.25@5.50; second, \$4.50@5.00; third quality, \$4.00@4.50; some choice single pairs, \$6.00@6.40; some of the poorest bulls, steers, \$1.00@1.20; Western steers, \$3.00@4.00. Stores \$1.50@2.25; fancy milk cows, \$6.00@7.00; milch cows, \$3.00@4.00; yearlings, \$1.00@1.25; two-year-olds, \$1.20@1.50.

SHEEP—Per pound, live weight, 3.00@4.00; extra, 4.00@5.00; lambs, \$5.00@8.00.

PORK—Hogs, wholesale—retail, \$2.50@3.00; country dressed hogs, \$1.00@1.25.

VEAL CALVES—\$2.00@3.00.

HIDES—Brighton—\$2.00@2.50; country lots, 75@100.

CALF SKINS—16@18¢ per lb.; dairy skins, 40@60¢.

TALLOW—Brighton, 3@4¢ per lb.; country lots, 22@24¢.

PELTS—75@1.25¢.

Cattle, Sheep.

Maine.	H. A. Gilmore	16
At Brighton.	Scattering	50
M. D. Holt	18	24
McIntire &	F. P. Angles	11
W. H. Harris	11	2
L. W. Harris	2	22
M. D. Stockman	21	1
A. D. Kirby	15	2
J. W. Ellsworth	15	1
C. F. Howell	7	1
E. F. Hanson &	45	75
Son	75	1
H. L. Moore	15	18
W. H. Parsons	55	10
Libby Bros.	40	10
At N. E. M. & Wool Co.	D. A. Walker	13
New Hampshire	J. W. Ellsworth	20
At Brighton.	G. J. Gould	14
W. G. Brown	22	1
F. L. Cotton	35	1
W. F. Moore	85	20
At Waterbury.	Brighton D. M.	23
At Watertown.		
At Waterbury.		
N. H. Woodward	3	3
E. G. Piper	9	34
Dorand Bros.	9	34
Others	415	900
At N. E. M. & Wool Co.		
W. A. Ricker	45	55
At Brighton.	North Beef Co.	54
J. S. Henry	42	17
At Watertown.	N. E. M. & Wool Co.	1400
Mackin & Kel.		
At Watertown.		
Vermont.	A. E. Brighten.	
N. H. Woodward	3	20
E. G. Piper	7	3
Dorand Bros.	9	34
Others	415	900
At N. E. M. & Wool Co.		
W. A. Ricker	45	55
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At Watertown.	N. E. M. & Wool Co.	1400
Mackin & Kel.		
At Watertown.		
J. S. Henry	23	13
O. H. Forbush	16	84
F. H. Wallace	6	1
At Brighton.	J. A. Hathaway	440
At Watertown.	J. A. Hathaway	32
J. S. Henry	60	788
R. Connors	60	32

Export Traffic.

The market for State beef cattle at Liverpool and London has for the past week been changing favorable to the buying interest. By the latest cable, the market at Liverpool is \$1.10@1.15, being a decline of 10¢ per lb. Upon the arrival of this past week's shipments, they being lighter, better prices are to be expected. The week's shipments were 216 cattle, 207 sheep and 3 horses. Sheep price steady at 12@13¢, d. w.

Shipments and destinations: On steamer Steamer Michigan, for Liverpool, 300 cattle by Morris Beef Company; 304 cattle, 100 sheep, the latter from Canada, by J. A. Hathaway; 21 States and 32 Canadian cattle, by J. Gould. On steamer Daltonhall, for London, 242 cattle by Morris Beef Company. On steamer Canadian, for Liverpool, 57 cattle, 129 sheep by Swift & Co.; 32 cattle by Morris Bee Company; 8 horses by E. Snow. On steamer Pomeranian, for Glasgow, 250 cattle by Swift & Co.

Horse Business.

The tone of the market such as expected in February, and during the week a little better, was due to the demand for the trade. Prices continue strong, and it is expected that the spring trade will open with satisfaction. At Welch & Hall Company's sale stable, the arrivals were 1200@1600 lbs., those sold at steady prices; some seconds at \$1.00 down. The sale was a drafter at \$300; sold pairs at \$400@600. At L. H. Brockway's were 2 cars of Western horses. Trade was moderate at steady prices, \$100@225. At Russell & Drew's was a little improvement, selling more horses, at a range of \$100@225. At Moses Colman & Son's the trade was hardly up to the average; sales from \$25@175, all nearby horses. At Myer Abrams & Co.'s they nearly closed out 4 carloads, from \$100@225. Some choice pairs sold at \$400@600, but few drivers. At H. S. Harris & Son's was a moderate demand; sold part of 3 carloads at \$100@200.

Union Yards, Watertown.

Tuesday—The market for beef cattle held a steady to strong position. Butchers seem ready to buy and need the stock. A fair number are on the market, but run largely into cows, heifers and steers, with some bulls. The range in prices is 14@15. R. Connors sold some 60 cows and heifers, weighing from 700@1100 lbs. at \$2.34¢. W. F. Wallace sold 200 steers of 230 lbs. at 9¢. O. H. Forbush had 36 cattle for sale at market with values around \$14@15. Western cattle cost from \$14@16¢. i. w.

Mich Cows and Springers.

Arrivals were somewhat in excess of last week, with demand just fair. Speculators were buying up to better grades for Wednesday's sale. Prices range from \$20@45. Choice, \$20@70.

Fat Mops.

These are unchanged in price, with Western at \$6@12¢; local goats at \$2@4¢. d. w.

Sheep Meats.

Butchers are not in the condition to pay the high prices on Western sheep to any extent. They buy just sufficient to keep along until price range lower. Only 11 cars of Western sheep for home trade. Prices on wethers, \$6.40@7.00 lbs. Ewes at \$6.15@7.00 lbs. Lambs best quality ranged 100@120 lbs. lower. The range \$6.00@7.00 lbs. at 6¢. A lot of 30 lambs, average 80 lbs. W. F. Wallace sold 20 lambs, of 85 lbs. at 6¢. J. S. Henry sold 12 sheep, of 85 lbs. at 4¢.

Veal Calves.

The demand continues good and prices generally sustained, with slim calves, \$3.00@4.00; fair mixed lots, 62@64¢; selected calves, 7.27@7.40; W. F. Wallace sold 50 calves, 135 lbs. at 6¢. J. S. Henry sold 15 calves, 130 lbs. at 6¢.

Droves of Veal Calves.

Maine—M. D. Holt, Son, 10; H. A. Gilmore, 21; M. D. Stockman, 21; A. D. Kirby, 18; L. W. Harris, 21; F. H. Wallace, 21; C. F. Howell, 10; P. H. Lowe, 65; W. G. Brown, 10; L. W. Mallon, 10; New Hampshire—W. G. Brown, 10; M. W. Wallace, 12; W. F. Wallace, 21; W. F. Moore, 10; W. F. Clark, 20; F. E. French, 20; Fred Savage, 94; W. A. Ricker & Co., 13; J. S. Henry, 50.

Massachusetts—J. S. Henry, 90; O. H. Forbush, 26; R. Connors, 20; H. A. Gilmore, 47; scattering, 16@18¢; F. H. Wallace, 9; L. Stetson, 32; D. Simons, 25; D. Mills, 11; A. M. Baggs, 20; N. Clason, 14; D. A. Walker, 10; J. W. Ellsworth, 32; D. W. Clark, 20; F. E. Keegan, 7; S. E. Wench, 17; T. J. Moroney, 15.

Brighton, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Stock at yards: 1610 cattle, 961 sheep, 26,364 hogs, 300 calves 100 horses. From West, 225 cattle, 130 sheep, 800 hogs, 100 horses. Maine, 25 cattle, 120 sheep, 114 hogs, 479 calves. New Hampshire, 48 cattle, 1 sheep, 10 calves. Vermont, 42 cattle, 27 sheep, 55 calves. Massachusetts—200 cattle, 50 hogs, 445 calves. New York, 200 hogs.

Tuesday—1610 head of cattle were yarded. Some 300 head were for store purposes to take back into the country. The beef cattle trade was fully as good as last week; demand good and prices generally sustained. J. W. Ellsworth sold 20 cattle, weighing from 800@1000 lbs. at 2@3¢. F. E. Keegan sold 11 cattle, averaging 800 lbs. at 2@3¢. F. W. Wallace sold 6 cows, average 900 lbs. at 12¢. N. Clason sold 3 cattle, slim, 2200 lbs. at 12¢. I. cow, 880 lbs. at 2¢; 3 cows, 2000 lbs. at 12¢. H. Gilmore sold 16 cows, weighing from 600@1300 lbs. at 12@13¢.

Mich Cows and Springers.

A liberal supply has been put upon the market, and the business was fully up to the demand. Good cows are in great demand, but it would be advisable not to crowd the market. Libby Bros. sold on commission 1 choice cow at \$45@50; 2 at 3¢. F. W. Wallace—Per pound, live weight, 3.00@4.00¢.

FAT HOGS—Per pound, Western, 5¢@6¢. live weight; steers, wholesale—retail, \$2.50@3.00; 7¢; country dressed hogs, 6¢@7¢.

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HIDES—Brighton—\$2.00@2.50; country lots, 75@100.

CALF SKINS—16@18¢ per lb.; dairy skins, 40@60¢.

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**Our Homes.**

**The Workbox.**  
LADY'S CROCHETED SKIRT.  
(in Roman Colors.)

Use the Bear brand, 3-fold Saxony yarn as follows.

Fiveskeins red No. 1411A, 3 skeins green No. 1839, 3 skeins pink No. 2005, 2 skeins blue No. 1100, 2 skeins cream white, 1 skein yellow No. 1370, 2 skeins black. One bone crochet needle No. 3. Ribbon for belt and placket hole fastening. Chain 300 stitches in red.

(\*) One single crochet (or slipper stitch, which is always worked into back part of stitch, forming a ribbed effect) in each of first 2 stitches; in next, 2 plain, skip 1 and repeat from (\*) to end of row.

1st row—One single in each of first two stitches, 3 single in next stitch, 2 plain, skip 2 and repeat to end of row.

2d row—One single in each of first two stitches, 3 single in next stitch, 2 plain, skip 2 and repeat to end of row.

3d row—Three single, 3 single all in next stitch, 3 single, skip 2, and repeat to end of row. Make 11 rows like the fourth row.

12th row—Widen by taking up every stitch with 3 single in top stitch of each scallop. Widen in this way every 14th row 5 times, then every fifteenth row 4 times. Last 43 rows are made without widening.

Seventy rows red, 1 row each of black, red, white, black, white, pink, green, white, 3 rows pink, 1 row each, blue, white, black, red, 4 rows pink, 1 row white, 1 row green, 1 row pink, 1 row each of white, black, white, pink, 5 rows blue, 1 row each of black, red, white, pink, 6 rows green, 1 row each of black, pink, red, pink, 7 rows green, 1 row each black, pink, red, black, blue, black, blue, black, pink, red, black, red, blue, 10 rows red.

When the skirt is finished, cut apart the chains which join the placket hole, and face each side with ribbon, finishing the edge with a tiny scallop of wool. The belt is of ribbon, finished with a hook and eye.

EVA M. NILES.

**Sweeping a Room.**

It requires skill and patience to sweep a room properly. The chief mistake made by the novice is in taking long, heavy strokes. Short, light strokes which are firm do the work as it should be done. It is always best to sweep a heavy Brussels carpet or one of similar make once with the grain and then across it, going over each three or four yards in this way until the entire carpet is swept. When a carpet is old and worn even this is not necessary, but if it is new or has perceptible ridges in the weaving this method should be followed.

After going over a room thoroughly, allow the dust to settle, and in ten or fifteen minutes give it the final brushing—sweeping once again rather lightly. This can be done with a carpet sweeper or dampened broom. Tea leaves scattered over the carpet, however, are better than either. They should be wrung out and loosely sprinkled over the carpet just before this final sweeping.

It is a good plan to add a cupful of salt to every two cupfuls of tea leaves used. The salt seems to brighten the colors of a faded carpet, as well as to aid in the removal of dust. When this second sweeping is over use a whisk broom around the corners and at the edges of the carpet.

After the walls are dusted and the carpet is thoroughly swept, some housekeepers wipe off the carpet's surface with a cloth dipped in salt and water and then thoroughly wrung out. This will remove every atom of dust. A cloth used for this purpose must be frequently rinsed out in fresh water, and then dipped again into salt and water, wringing thoroughly. Other housekeepers rub the carpet with a cloth wrung out as dry as possible from water to which two tablespoonsfuls of ammonia have been added for every gallon. This will also brighten faded colors.

It is needless to say that in sweeping as thoroughly as this everything in the room should either be removed or covered carefully with dusting sheets. Housekeepers who are buying heavy pieces of furniture should select only those that can be set on casters, so that they can be pushed out and the dust under them removed.

It is a great mistake to neglect sweeping as thoroughly as this once a week. Dust that becomes ground into a carpet wears it out more than anything else. Fortunately, many houses of today are built with hard wood floors, so that this burden of sweeping is materially lessened. Wood floors are easily swept with hair brushes or rubbed with crude petroleum or simply polished with a waxing brush.—N. Y. Tribune.

**Craying for Stimulants.**

That the blood normally contains stimulants, that these stimulants exercise a favoring influence on function, and conduct to, and may even be a necessary factor in the production, of the feeling of well-being, explains the widespread liking in man and beast for stimulating substances, says Dr. Harry Campbell. This liking, amounting often to a craving, is the expression of a great physiological principle. When there is perfect health, when the blood is well provided with its proper stimulants and not overcharged with depressants, there is no craving for extraneous stimulants, as alcohol, tea or coffee. But when it is defective with the one and overcharged with the other, then is left the desire for the glass of wine or the cup of tea. In order to obviate this desire we should seek to keep the body at the highest level of health. The more perfect the health, the more perfect will be the composition of the blood both in respect to physiological stimulants and deleterious toxins. A blood properly constituted in these and other respects will exercise a gentle stimulant action on the nervous system and induce a condition of mild physiological intoxication, which expresses itself in a feeling of well-being and happiness, a condition which cannot be bettered.

**The Uses of Cod Liver Oil.**

There are few people who, at one time or another, have not had occasion to take cod liver oil. In bronchial affections, in rheumatism, in scrofula, indeed, in all wasting affections, it is a restorative food of unsurpassable excellence. It has recently been shown that a horse fed daily on 66 ounces of linseed oil could do 46,000 pounds more work than without it. Oil not only makes the other food taken more serviceable, but its own food value is of the profoundest importance.

When a man begins to run down, he loses fat. Common sense would, therefore, direct that, under such circumstances, the best thing to take would be fat or oil. Practical experience verifies the inferences of common

sense. In consumption, for example, a disease in which there are inevitably wasting and considerable loss of weight, if not stayed in its course, the very best agent in the world is cod liver oil. It eases the cough, tones the lungs and their mucous membrane, improves the appetite and digestion, lessens the night-sweats, and rounds again the wasting, weakened limbs with fat. The greatest authority of our time says that after using this oil for about half a century, he found it the only agent worthy of the name of remedy in consumption.

The physicians inform us that fat contains nearly double the amount of force of other foods, and the physiologists point out that it is therefore peculiarly adapted for storing away for future use, as in the hibernating bear, etc. Fat conserves the body heat; and fat people as a rule are, perhaps, good-natured people, though it is not the fat folks who have advanced the great work of the world to any wonderful extent. But we have to speak of a property of cod liver oil rarely or ever mentioned—it is its usefulness in correcting mal-adaptation by rendering the other food more beneficial. Without fat, the digestive processes soon becomes impaired, the assimilation prevented, the health reduced. In gout, rheumatism, scrofula and syphilis, cod liver oil is often of yeoman service in assisting to restore the nutritive processes to the normal state. To be sure, in gout and rheumatism there may seem to be a contra-indication to oil. But then, it will often restore the strength when nothing else will. This is a point worth bearing in mind. We should recollect that wherever there is rapid cell-growth, as in growing children, oil participates in the process to an important degree. It is the same with the cell-growth in convalescence.—Health.

**Japanese Hairdressing.**

This is quite a fine art; and there a pretty woman will not grudge a whole day spent in front of her mirror while her attendant applies the pomade so necessary for her elaborate coiffure, in which there must not be a hair out of place. The picturesque coiffure and fluffiness admired by Western women would not for a moment be tolerated by her, and her abundant tresses cannot be too smooth and stiff for the elaborate designs into which they are formed.

It is only while they are young that Japanese women have a wealth of hair; much of it disappears when they are about thirty, and as old age creeps on their attire becomes severely simple. There is no pretension about being younger than they are—that is an idea which would strike them as decidedly foolish—and so little do they mind the world knowing their ages, that the arrangement of hair shows the different stages they have reached in life's journey.

For small occasions ornaments of various kinds are worn in the hairpins of ivory, tortoise shell and gold, and some of them bright red and some moulded like flowers.

This elaborate hairdressing is not the waste of time that one might imagine, for it is allowed to remain undisturbed for several days and keeps quite neat, for the wooden block which is used instead of a pillow at night in no way interferes with it. When last the hair must be rearranged it is carefully washed before the pomade is renewed, for great care is taken by the dainty ladies in matters of personal cleanliness.—Chicago News.

**To Have More Heat from Radiator.**

There are a good many rooms where the radiator is either too small or the steam pressure is too low to maintain a comfortable temperature in severe weather. If the tenant is enjoying the many advantages afforded by central station electric lighting service, the matter can easily be remedied.

Take the fan that kept you cool all summer and set it where it can blow against a large part of the radiator's surface. Turn it at low speed, or high if necessary, and your cold room will soon be thoroughly warmed.

The philosophy of the thing is that steam at a low pressure carries much less latent heat than steam at a high pressure, and therefore warms the radiator so poorly that only a slight draught of air rises around the pipes, and condensation is slow.

With the fan in operation there is a forced draught against the radiator that conducts a great deal more heat away from the iron, cooling it so that much more condensation of steam occurs inside it. The heat thus snatched from the reluctant radiator is held in the circulating atmosphere of the room, which is soon changed from cold to warm at a trifling cost for electric energy.

**Cold Feet and Indigestion.**

Coldness of feet and limbs is almost invariably an evidence of indigestion. The coldness is not due to the weakness of the heart or feebleness of circulation, as is generally supposed, but to the contraction of small arteries, preventing blood from entering the parts. There is generally an irritation of the abdominal sympathetic nerve centres which control the circulation of the lower extremities. This difficulty is not to be removed by exercise, or by any special application to the limbs, but by removal of the causes of the irritation. This may be a prolapsed stomach or chronic indigestion. Hot and cold foot baths are valuable. These set, not simply on the feet and limbs, but reflex action affects benefitably the abdominal sympathetic centres, which are in a diseased condition.

Rubbing of the feet and legs is also an excellent method of overcoming spasm of the blood vessels, thus preserving the normal circulation. The rubbing should be from the feet towards the body. The surface should be well lubricated with vaseline. To avoid irritation of the skin care should also be taken to clothe limbs very warmly. In many cases this is necessary, even in the summer season.

**Notes for the Sickroom.**

Keep all medicine bottles out of the room, or at least where the invalid cannot see them.

Tea and coffee, where a patient is allowed to have them, should always be taken immediately after they are made.

Food for the sick should be of the best quality, neatly and delicately prepared.

Every meal should be a surprise, and it is a good plan to leave the patient alone while eating, and never bring him more than he will probably want.

Of course, every one knows that plenty of ventilation is necessary, though there should be no draughts of air directly blowing on the patient.

Each individual disease should have a peculiar diet of its own.

It is well not to heap much bedclothing over an invalid. Down comforters are desirable, because they are so light, and at the same time so warm. There are not many things more annoying than to lie under the weight of heavy blankets and

comforters. It is a good plan to wrap an old baby blanket or shawl around the feet to keep them warm. Another small blanket to lay against the back will be appreciated.

No food or drink should be allowed to remain in the sickroom. They should be kept in an adjoining room or on the outside of a window, carefully covered, and where they may be kept perfectly cool.

Where one is just recovering from a long illness or is a chronic invalid, it is often a good plan, if permissible, to move him from one bedroom to another, a week perhaps in one and then a week in another. This will give variety, for an invalid tires of seeing the same furnishings and brie-a-brac in the same place day after day and week after week. It has been suggested that an invalid or a patient who is convalescing, and can be moved, might sleep in one bedroom and spend the daytime in another.

The physicians inform us that fat contains nearly double the amount of force of other foods, and the physiologists point out that it is therefore peculiarly adapted for storing away for future use, as in the hibernating bear, etc. Fat conserves the body heat; and fat people as a rule are, perhaps, good-natured people, though it is not the fat folks who have advanced the great work of the world to any wonderful extent.

But we have to speak of a property of cod liver oil rarely or ever mentioned—it is its usefulness in correcting mal-adaptation.

Never tell horrifying stories or anything unpleasant to any invalid. This would seem like an unnecessary infliction, but it is a common thing done by many well-meaning, thoughtless people. Talk to the patient only about agreeable, cheerful or uplifting topics.

**Grease Adulterations.**

The Health Protective Society of New York was recently addressed by R. E. Doolittle, the chief of the New York Laboratory of the United States Department of Agriculture, and he told them that the country had little protection against adulteration and misbranding, except in the case of foreign products. These, in consequence of recent legislation, are now denied admission to the country if adulterated or of inferior quality, thus placing a premium upon foreign goods. Not all adulteration is prohibited, it is true, but the necessity for calling things what they are as effective as actual prohibition.

"Importers say," said Mr. Doolittle, "that to mark their products 'artificially colored' is just the same as to inscribe the word 'poison' upon them."

One resolution which the women present made was to grind their own splices henceforth and forever. It is practically the same word, Mr. Doolittle said, to secure pure coffee and splices, and even then one cannot be absolutely sure that some of the coffee beans are not made out of wheat middlings.

Mr. Doolittle passed around some specimens of coffee and splices which were made up, according to the analyses pasted on the bottles, of almost everything except the substances indicated by the names. Black pepper was composed of ground olive stones, coconut shells, wheat middlings and white pepper shells. An analysis of ginger brought to light such things as wheat flour, rice bran, mustard hulls, and in one case twenty per cent. of plaster. Mustard was colored in one case with turmeric, a harmless vegetable oil, and in another as old age creeps on their attire becomes severely simple. There is no pretension about being younger than they are—that is an idea which would strike them as decidedly foolish—and so little do they mind the world knowing their ages, that the arrangement of hair shows the different stages they have reached in life's journey.

For small occasions ornaments of various kinds are worn in the hairpins of ivory, tortoise shell and gold, and some of them bright red and some moulded like flowers.

This elaborate hairdressing is not the waste of time that one might imagine, for it is allowed to remain undisturbed for several days and keeps quite neat, for the wooden block which is used instead of a pillow at night in no way interferes with it. When last the hair must be rearranged it is carefully washed before the pomade is renewed, for great care is taken by the dainty ladies in matters of personal cleanliness.—Chicago News.

It is only while they are young that Japanese women have a wealth of hair; much of it disappears when they are about thirty, and as old age creeps on their attire becomes severely simple. There is no pretension about being younger than they are—that is an idea which would strike them as decidedly foolish—and so little do they mind the world knowing their ages, that the arrangement of hair shows the different stages they have reached in life's journey.

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## Poetry.

**AND YET IT IS.**  
The eye shall answer:  
Tooth as a nail driven  
Shall tell the story;  
Blood runs—the crimson tide  
Babbles and flows—beating  
On the shores of Time—  
Battle flags unfurled—  
Answer! oh ye sons of men.  
  
Peace—is humanity's cry:  
And yet—and yet again,  
War makes the world of shadows,  
Took—blood-purchased,  
God only knows—and the  
Unresting dead—whisper.  
—GEORGE HERRIOTT.

**THE OLD MAN'S TROUBLES.**

Yea th' frost is bounder t' cur,  
An' folks that fixes things rason' hum,  
When sundawn gives us shivers,  
Will fence up things whereof 'Jack treads,  
An' roun' over posy beds,  
Prettin' em' with kivers.  
  
Yeh ketch a cold yessome night,  
A-solin' roun' by lantern light,  
A-blowl' an' a-sneezin'.  
An' will y' g' ter bed at last  
Yer wife ain't sure th' trouble's past,  
Dead set that "smethin's freezin'."

Confound this thing of hide an' seek,  
Of movin' puts nine times a week,  
Th' palms an' ferns an' mousies;  
It's on the porch—back in th' sun,  
Just keeps a feller on th' run  
Jus'urin' gainst his losses.

Them prickly things! Dad burn them plants  
Till they an' tears y' ear coat or pants!  
I wish th' frost would bite 'em.  
Them cactuses is jest a fad  
Ter make men folk so bloom'in' mad  
They'd like ter cut us fight 'em.  
  
Wal, winnin' doads on seah affairs,  
Ain't happy 'bout their needless cares,  
But it don't seem ter faze 'em;  
Still I allow this world of ours  
Would be somethin' thout its flowers,  
An' winnin' hands ter raise 'em.  
—Clifford Kane Stout, in Lippincott's.

**THE SNOWFLAKE.**

Caught with wintry hand  
A snowflake from th' air,  
And asked what sorrow planned  
A star so frail and rare.  
  
From what wintry flay  
Such dreams diminutive—  
Like love," I heard you sigh,  
"Too fragile-winged to live!"  
  
Yet while you bent and gazed  
On that cold beauty, dear,  
The star you caught and praised,  
Seen, turned into a tear!

And well love understands  
How many and many a star  
Life seeks with feverish hands,  
Swings white, in being afar!  
  
And we, through sign and tear  
Grow wise and learn again  
The love that stoops not, dear,  
Is the love that knows not pain!  
—Arthur Stringer, in Smart Set.

**KNOWING AND TRUSTING.**

I think if thou couldst know,  
O soul that will complain,  
What lies concealed below  
Our burden and our pain,  
How just our anguish brings  
Near those longed for things  
We seek for now in vain—  
I think thou wouldest rejoice and not complain.

I think if thou couldst see,  
With thy dim mortal sight,  
How meanings, dark to thee,  
Are shadows hiding light;  
Truth's efforts, crossed and vexed,  
Life's purposes all perplexed—  
If thou couldst see them right,

I think they would seem all clear, all wise  
and bright.  
And yet thou canst not know,  
And yet thou canst not see;  
Wisdom and sight are slow  
In poor humanity,  
If thou couldst trust, poor soul,  
In Him who rules the whole,  
Thou wouldest find peace and rest.

Wisdom and sight are well, but trust is best.  
—A. A. Proctor.

**THE FOOL'S PRAYER.**

The royal foal was done; the King  
Sought out some new sport to banish care,  
And to his jester cried: "Sir Fool,  
Knew new, and make us for a prayer!"

The jester doffed his cap and beth,  
And stood the mocking court before;  
They could not see the bitter smile  
Behind the painted grin he wore.

He bowed his head, and bent his knee  
Upon the monarch's silken stool;  
His pleading voice arose: "O Lord,  
Be merciful to me, a fool!"

"No pity, Lord, could change the heart  
From red with wrong to white as wool;  
The red must heal the sin; but Lord,  
Be merciful to me, a fool!"

"Tis not by guilt the onward sweep  
Of truth and right, on Lord, we stay;  
Tis by our follies that so long  
We hold the earth from heaven best."

—Edward Rowland Sill.

**THE BROKEN GLASS.**

When it was whole, across this mirror fine  
What signs of strength and beauty passed!  
Here was the smiling woman glassed,  
Of children, too, and, only love divine,  
The forms of rocks and trees, the glorious shine  
Of suns and stars, and, wondrously amased,  
The journeying clouds; beneath them, oceans vast

Immeasurable surge of restless brine.  
It shattered now, and all these things and more—

Great thoughts, imaginations strong and free—  
Are in this glass reflected brokenly;  
Crashed is the dance upon that polished floor.  
Poor useless shell that held this sacred trust,  
Too soon than cannot crumble into dust!

—John White Chadwick, in Scribner's.

It singeth low in every heart,  
We hear it each and all—  
A song of those who answer not,  
However we may call;  
They throng the silence of the breast,  
We see them as of yore—

Thy kind, the brave, the true, the sweet,  
Who walk with us no more.

Be noble! and the nobleness that lies  
In other men, sleeping but never dead,  
Will rise in majesty to meet thine own;

Then will thou see it gleam in many eyes,  
Then will pure light around thy path be shed,  
And thou will nevermore be sad and dead.

—Lowell.

**Miscellaneous.****A Sheep Day.**

We met at a hotel, and I thought her one of the most charming women I had ever seen.

Refined and almost hyper-sensitive, she struck me at once as being a woman of breeding and distinction. Yet among a crowd of acquaintances ripened, I visited her and she was smart and elegantly appointed, I felt an instinctive aversion to the friends and acquaintances I met there.

Of her people she seldom spoke—her parents were dead, she told me, and her husband was abroad, but might be home again at any time.

She was always exquisitely dressed in the latest fashion, and money seemed abundant with her.

She was an adept shopper, quick at knowing what she wanted, and quicker still at seeing it, and I was very glad when she offered to pilot me through the difficult mazes of the winter sales.

I am not possessed of a large dress allowance, and my wardrobe for the coming season depends somewhat on my successive purchases in sale time. Mrs. Vereker has just given me help to help me through. She possessed such perfect taste that I feel quite safe in her hands.

So sat one evening arranging what we were to buy.

"It is far better to go now when the first rush of the sales is over," said Mrs. Vereker. "I went the first three days myself, but the crowd was awful, and there's still plenty of things to be had."

"D'd you pick up many things?" I asked.

She laid down the list she was making and stared at me in dumb amazement. Then her face cleared.

"Yes—no, not so very much. Let me see; I bought this tea-coat and some hats and my new gray—"

She continued the list and at last I realized it was "It's good of you. We'll go—first and then on to Bond street." I glanced at the list and get the fur at—it they can always be relied on to really reduce things. I'll call for you at eleven tomorrow, and we'll get Norman to lend me his motor."

"Yes, "she said. "I love a motor—I can go to double the number of shops and spend the whole morning looking round until we find exactly what we want."

The next morning I called for Mrs. Vereker and found her waiting.

"Won't you find that cost too hot?" I asked, as we reached the first of our shops, and I slipped off my own heavy motoring coat.

"No, I love you. We'll go—first and then on to the on Bond street." I glanced at the list and get the fur at—it they can always be relied on to really reduce things. I'll call for you at eleven tomorrow, and we'll get Norman to lend me his motor."

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## The Horse.

## Condition of the Teeth.

It will make no difference how you feed the horse unless the teeth are in good condition. The food is prepared for the stomach by the molars or grinders, twenty-four in number. This mastication or biting of the food for the action of the stomach juices, is done by a sideway movement, the food being changed from side to side at will.

In most horses this action results in the formation of projections of the grinders, such projections or hooks causing sore mouths, slavering the passage of undigested food, wounds of the tongue and lining of the mouth, etc. The treatment is simple, calling as it does for the use of the float (dental file), the operation consisting in filing down the projections on the outer side of the upper and the inner side of the lower molars. The average work horse will need this attention once a year.—L. A. Merrill.

## Plumping a Thin Horse.

Corn meal, bran, cut hay and molasses may be safely be counted on to fatten thin horses more quickly than any other combination, but a feed of dry grain should be given at least once every two days for the sake of variety. Cracked corn with sometimes a feed of oats, if possible, will prove the best for this. Of course, they must not be given more than they will clean up, for then they will get stalled, and it will take some time to get them back to full feed again, and it is here that the eye of the master must govern.

A ration of two pounds of molasses, four pounds of cracked corn and two quarts of bran, with plenty of cut hay, will be found a great flesh-former. The molasses is reduced with water, poured over the cut hay, and then the ground grain is mixed all through the mass. This makes a heavy ration, and so is the same amount of barley meal fed in precisely the same way, but it will do the work. A feed of the grain as described in the morning, one of the boiled barley at night, and a ration of dry ground barley at noon would make an ideal combination for the purpose named. If oatmeal is to be had at anything like a moderate price a little of it may be used, but if it is high it should not be purchased. The corn and the boiled barley may be mixed in equal proportions if desired and fed with the bran and molasses and cut hay. As stated, variety is always good.

Cautions are advised in starting horses on full feed. It is better to err on the side of losing a few pounds by going a little slow at first than it is to get into trouble by trying to force the animals too quickly on to the heavy ration. As a rule go, it is well to feed per day one pound of grain for every hundred pounds of live weight in the horse. They should have more than this as a general rule when at the height of the feeding period, but each horse should have his ration dealt out to him separately according to his capacity. After a horse is thriving on this amount of grain satisfactorily he should have more if he asks for it, but the danger line is usually not far ahead when this point is reached.

But as no real rule of thumb has ever yet been formulated that would cover all cases, the feeder must accept this as a basis, and then work to it and beyond it as occasion may require. Ronghage of some sort, of course, the horses must have, but when they are getting plenty of cut hay moistened with treacle water, they do not require much in the long shape. Again, a pound of hay per hundred weight of live horse is a good rule to follow, and what is fed cut up into half or three-quarter-inch lengths should be deducted from the general amount allowed.

## From a Horseman's Note Book.

You can get no more power from a horse than you give him in the food.

The horse is man's invaluable helper and should be treated as a friend.

The best drivers talk much to their animals.

Your horse needs water oftener than you.

A sandy or muddy road doubles the work.

A rise of only one foot in ten doubles the draft.

Shying is very often caused by abuse, overloading or tight harness.

The whip costs more than it saves. Put it away.

Wide tires save much horse power.

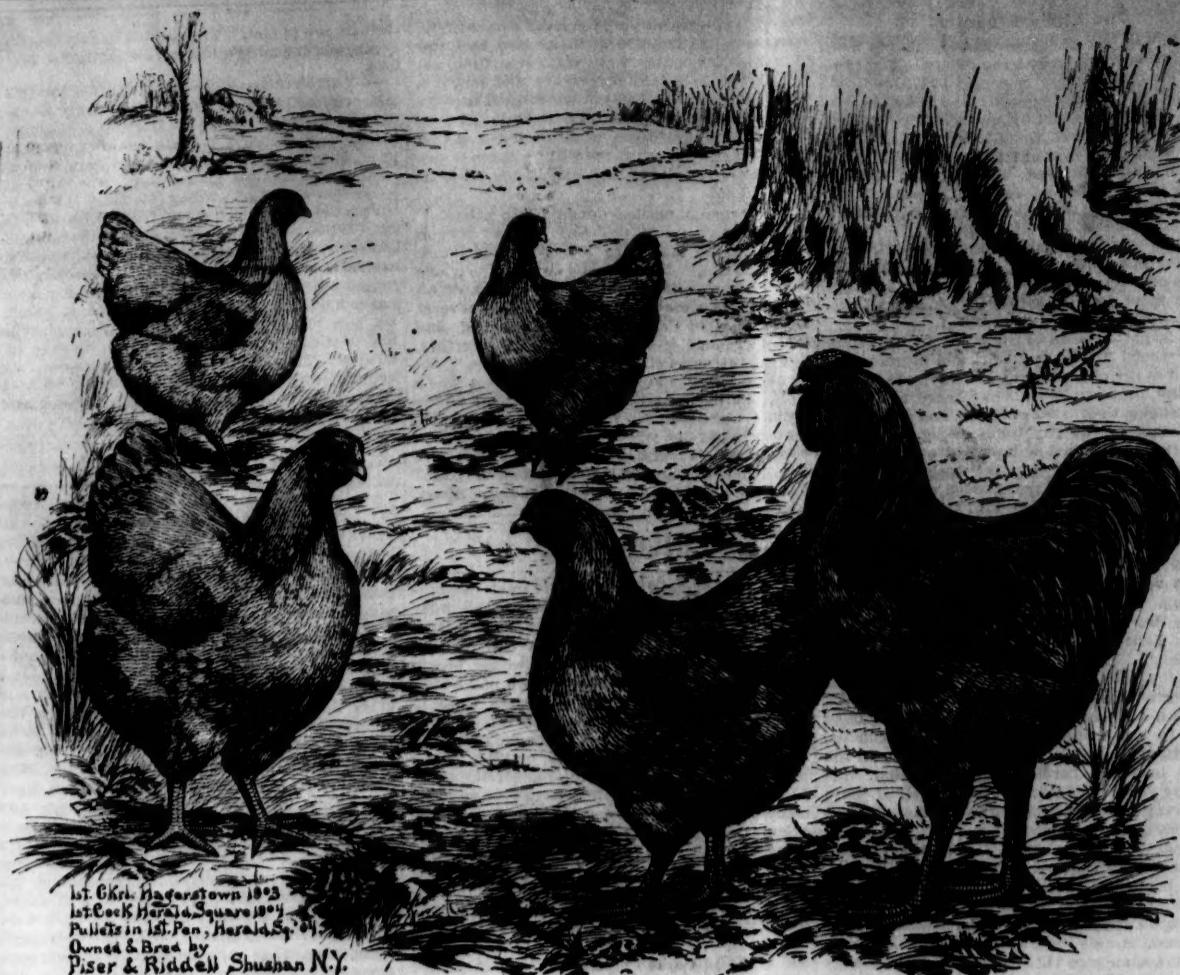
Quiet and patient drivers are worth twice as much as any others.

Your horse intends to please you, but does not always know your wishes.

Dark or damp stables cause low spirits and various diseases.

Axle grease pays one thousand per cent.

A practical and educational example of American forestry-lumbering is being worked out by the Bureau of Forestry in the Chippewa Indian Reservation, Minnesota. It has been the general policy of the government to sell its timberlands at \$200 an acre. In these Indian lands, however, aggregating some 175,000 acres, the plan was adopted of selling the timber—not the land—to the highest bidder, the tree to be cut under the direction of the Government Forester, leaving at least five per cent. of the timber standing to insure reforestation. Some \$15 an acre is being realized for this timber, while the title to the land remains in the Government and under the lumbering regulations prescribed by the Bureau of Forestry the integrity of this



PEN OF BUFF WYANDOTTES.

land as a future timber producer is assured. This is equally a common-sense plan, and the Government some \$12 an acre more than under the old way. If some such policy as this had been applied to the vast Government timber lands of the middle Northwest, which have been ruthlessly destroyed, and which might be applied to the still finer-timbered regions of the far Northwest, where a million and a half acres annually is passing out of the hands of the Government, it can be seen what a tremendous benefit would result not only to the Federal Treasury but to our future forest supply.

The water was low at the commencement of winter, and with such long continued cold freezing weather the supply has been gradually diminishing until the condition is getting to be very serious in many places. Springs, wells and brooks are falling on the farms and rivers are unusually low. Many farmers have to draw water for their stock and some from quite a distance. A thaw is greatly needed, but for many weeks the weather has hardly been mild enough to soften the snow. It has been a long cold winter and a change for the better will be gladly welcomed. Since February there has been much wind, causing roads to drift badly. No complaint as yet for lack of fodder.—E. R. T., Franklin County, Vt.

The department of agriculture has established experimental cotton plantations in the South, to educate the planters in fertilization.

keeping will be discussed by Prof. James E. Rice of Cornell University. Professor Rice is one of the foremost speakers in the country on this subject. To the teachers, the subject of school gardens is at this time particularly interesting. This subject will be presented on the evening of the twenty-second by D. J. Crosby of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and will be illustrated. Mr. Crosby is also chairman of the Section on School Gardens of the American Civic Association. The country school question will be ably presented by Hon. Walter E. Ranger, Commissioner of public schools of Vermont. Other speakers of equal note are being arranged for. By courtesy of President Faunce all of the sessions will be held in the halls of Brown University.

Exports from the United States to Cuba in the calendar year 1904, the first year under the reciprocity treaty, were larger than in any earlier year in the history of our trade with that island, and were 38.9 per cent. in excess of those of the immediately preceding year. Practically every article of importance exported to Cuba showed an increase in 1904 compared with 1903, and in the few articles showing a decreased reduction in value was, in some cases at least, due to lower prices, while quantities were greater than those of the preceding year. Flour, cattle lard, lumber, coal, boots and shoes, corn, cotton oil, mineral oils and furniture, in the order here stated, form the largest items in the exports to the island during the year.

The Department of Agriculture says that through certain cultural experiments, including an early crop and use of parsnip green, a satisfactory cotton crop may be grown in years of severe boll worm ravages.

It is reported in Washington that Attorney-General William H. Moody of Massachusetts is to resign his portfolio in favor of Ambassador Choate.



ADIRONDACKS MODEL MOOSE.

"ADIRONDACKS MODEL MOOSE."

Winner of first prize, Chicago. First fleece, 27 pounds 15 ounces; second fleece, 26 pounds 11 ounces. Sired by Model, by Adirondack, by Old Black brd in 1900. Bred and owned by J. H. Mead & Sons, Marble Valley Stock Farm, West Rutland, Vt.

cultivation, seed selection and improvement of breeds by crossing. As a result, some farmers are getting six hundred to eight hundred pounds per acre, against an average of 150 pounds throughout the cotton belt. The department experts believe that more and more machinery will be used in the field and that machine pickers will prove a success, the best prospect in this line being an invention by Lowry, inventor of the round bale.

At an expense of over \$5000, the game birds of Illinois are to be fed by the State during the continuance of the severe cold.

The finance committee of the Rhode Island Senate and the House recently visited the Agricultural College, having especially in mind facilities for growing and raising money-making animals. All the agricultural organizations in the State have endorsed the request for these appropriations. The college authorities are extremely anxious that the appropriations should be made because very little progress in the building up of the agricultural departments can be made until these facilities are at hand.

—By invitation Mount Calm Grange of Enfield, N. H., and Blue Mountain Grange of Grantham, N. H., visited Rockland Grange, No. 284, of George's Mills, Feb. 14. Rockland Grange discussed the question assigned by the State lecturer, the rest of the programme being furnished by the visiting granges. The district deputy being present, the grange exemplified the work of the third degree. A fine supper was served in the dining hall, and each guest was presented with a valentine in honor of the day. It is expected that the third and fourth degrees will be conferred on one candidate at the next regular meeting, Feb. 28.

—Among the speakers already secured for the Conference on Rural Progress, which is to be held in Providence Wednesday and Thursday, March 23 and 24, is Hon. N. J. Bachelder, ex-governor of New Hampshire. Governor Bachelder is a very popular speaker, not only in his native State, but wherever the grange is known, as he occupies the important position of lecturer of the National Grange. The subject of poverty-

"AN ALL 'ROUND SUCCESS"

THE McCORMICK 1905 ANNUAL.

"McCormick booklet which has just been issued. It is printed in two colors with a handsome lithographed cover. The pictorial embellishment is greatly enhanced by the drawings, being pastoral scenes surrounding the circles enclosing the descriptive text and machine illustrations.

—The Dearing annual, just off the press, is perhaps the most artistic annual of the famous Ideal line that has ever appeared. On each page are reproduced illustrations from the pen of a talented artist, depicting harvesting scenes throughout the world.

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